

STARS AND STRIPES

Monday, January 27, 2003

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

Inspectors report to U.N.

ElBaradei wants more time, Blix says job has just begun

BY DAFNA LINZER

The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Top weapons inspector Hans Blix on Monday said Baghdad had not genuinely accepted U.N. resolutions demanding that it disarm, while his counterpart Mohamed ElBaradei said there was no evidence so far that Iraq was reviving its nuclear program and asked for a “few months” to complete the search.

The Bush administration dismissed Iraq’s response as inadequate, and U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte said he had heard nothing that gave “any hope that Iraq will disarm” voluntarily.

Other Security Council members with the same veto power as the United States disagreed.

“The job has not been completed. We share the view of many that this process has not been completed and more time is needed,” said China’s deputy U.N. ambassador Zhang Yishan. Russian Ambassador Sergey Lavrov said his country strongly supported calls “for inspections to continue.”

The differing views on the inspectors’ reports could make or break international support for military intervention in Iraq.

Iraqi Ambassador Mohammed al-Douri defended his country’s actions. “We open all doors to Mr. Blix and his team. If there is something,

he will find it. We have no hidden reports at all.”

ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, said so far nuclear inspections of 106 sites had turned up nothing.

“With our verification system now in place, barring exceptional circumstances and provided there is sustained proactive cooperation by Iraq, we should be able within the next few months to provide credible assurance that Iraq has no nuclear weapons program.

“These few months would be a valuable investment in peace because it could help avoid a war,” ElBaradei told the Security Council.

In a toughly worded assessment of Iraq’s cooperation with 60 days of inspections, Blix, head of the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, chided the Iraqis for failing to cooperate on substance “in order to bring the disarmament task to completion, through the peaceful process of inspection, and to bring the monitoring task on a firm course.”

He did not specifically call for more time but made clear that his inspectors have only just begun their work.

Both Blix and ElBaradei complained that Iraqi scientists were not submitting to private interviews. But ElBaradei said the Iraqis were cooperating with his questions and said the process shouldn’t be hampered by deadlines.

Front line football fanatics



KENDRA HELMER/Stars and Stripes

Airman Maurice Reid, left, and Airman Albert Crews celebrate early Monday morning in the mess decks aboard the USS Harry S. Truman as Tampa Bay wins Super Bowl XXXVII. For more Super Bowl coverage, see Pages 9-11.

U.S. cites report: Iraq not complying

BY SCOTT LINDLAW

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration dismissed Iraq’s response to U.N. disarmament demands as inadequate Monday, arguing that nothing in the inspection report shows Baghdad has done enough to avert war and saying Saddam Hussein poses a “very grave threat.”

At the same time, administration officials insisted that an invasion of Iraq remained President Bush’s last choice.

Of the report that inspectors gave to the Security Council on Monday, the U.S. ambassador to the U.N., John Negroponte, said: “They [Iraqi officials] are not cooperating unconditionally.”

Speaking in New York, Negroponte also said he saw nothing in the report from inspectors that “gives us any hope that Iraq will disarm” voluntarily.

“In the days ahead, we believe the Council and its mem-

ber governments must face its responsibilities and consider what message Council irresolution sends to Iraq and other proliferators,” he said.

Asked whether the threat from Saddam Hussein is imminent, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said, “From the president’s point of view, it remains a very grave threat.”

Yet Fleischer said “nobody, but nobody is more reluctant to go to war than President Bush.”

Eager to show he is consulting with other leaders, Bush spoke Monday with Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar, a conservative ally.

The White House reacted coolly to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan’s plea for longer weapons inspections in Iraq.

Fleischer said the Bush administration was combing the inspection report for “one thing, very simple thing” — whether Iraq is complying with international demands to disarm.

Dems ask Bush to give proof

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle challenged the Bush administration on Monday to show “proof to the world” that Iraq has weapons of mass destruction, part of an attack by the party’s top leaders on the eve of the president’s State of the Union address.

In a joint appearance, Daschle and House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi accused Bush of creating a “credibility gap” on purpose, of saying one thing and doing another across a range of issues.

“The administration says that the reason we cannot afford \$1.5 billion in homeland security funding, which the Congress passed into law but the president refuses to spend, is that we are constrained by a wartime budget,” Pelosi, D-Calif., said in prepared remarks.

“And yet, the president says there is enough money in the wartime budget to create a huge tax cut that benefits the wealthiest in our country. The credibility gap widens,” she added.

States

N.Y. firefighters’ funds: A retired firefighter who was recruited to urge the Bush administration to approve funds to monitor the health of workers at the World Trade Center site says he won’t go to Washington out of loyalty to the Republican Party.

“I decided not to go,” Bob Beckwith told the Daily News in Monday’s editions. “I didn’t know that I was taking a seat from a Democrat. I’m a Republican. I’m not going to change parties. I’m not going to embarrass anybody.”

In August, Bush rejected a \$5.1 billion spending plan, which included a proposed \$90 million for long-term health monitoring of emergency workers and \$150 million for equipment and training grants to fire departments.

Victims’ families lawsuit: Seven families of people killed in the World Trade Center attack have sued the head of the federal Sept. 11 Victim Compensation Fund, accusing him of acting unfairly in calculating awards for victims’ relatives.

The lawsuit alleges that Kenneth Feinberg, who is special master of the fund, has used illegal formulas to compute the monetary awards and has “alienated and disenfranchised the very constituency he was appointed to serve.”

Space shuttle experiments: Space shuttle Columbia’s astronauts are staying busy in orbit conducting scientific experiments that take advantage of the uniqueness of space.

One experiment that occupied astronaut Laurel Clark on Sunday was a European Space Agency study looking at how bacteria and yeast develop in space and how reduced gravity affects their response to antibiotics.

Money matters

Martha Stewart’s losses: Domesticity maven Martha Stewart estimates she has lost \$400 million because of the federal investigation into her ImClone stock trade, she told The New Yorker magazine.

Stewart told writer Jeffrey Toobin that the losses have been mostly in the decline in value of her more than 30 million shares in her multimedia company, but also in legal fees and lost business opportunities.

Stewart noted that her image has suffered and said she’s “puzzled by the public’s delight” in her troubles.

News tracker: What’s new with old news

World

Venezuela strike: Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said he would implement price controls to go along with limits on the trade in foreign currencies as Venezuela’s economy heads for a tailspin stemming from an opposition strike, which entered its ninth week Monday.

“So that these [currency] controls do not hurt the poor, we will institute price controls,” Chavez said Sunday in Porto Alegre, Brazil, at the World Social Forum. He did not give details of the controls.

Hundreds of thousands of his foes occupied a central Caracas highway for the entire weekend to protest a Supreme Court decision suspending a Feb. 2 referendum on Chavez’s rule.

Milosevic’s trial: Former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic returned to court Monday after a two-week period recovering from the flu to face testimony from a former Croatian defense minister.

Milosevic’s poor health has led to nearly two months of postponements since his war crimes trial began at the U.N. Yugoslav tribunal last February. At 61, he suffers high blood pressure and heart problems.

AIDS drugs research: Global business leaders reported progress on making cheaper AIDS drugs available to poor nations as Microsoft founder Bill Gates made another contribution to health in the developing world — announcing a \$200 million grant to fund medical research.

Meeting at an exclusive Alpine resort, delegates to the World Economic Forum held talks on how to ensure access for poor countries to affordable copies of vital drugs while respecting the patent rights of pharmaceutical companies.

The Gates grant was intended to encourage research into the “grand challenges in global health” that the private sector has little financial incentive to tackle.

Philippine peace proposal: Communist guerrillas said Monday that they will reject a government-drafted peace accord approved by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to end their 34-year-old rebellion.

Arroyo announced Saturday she has approved a draft proposal to end the communist insurrection — one of

Asia’s longest — but warned the offer is only for those who renounce violence.

Rebel spokesman Gregorio Rosal said the guerrillas would reject the proposal if it were offered, saying they expect it to be a “declaration of surrender.”

German school hostages: German prosecutors on Monday charged a 16-year-old boy who took four children hostage at their school late last year with kidnapping and hostage-taking at gunpoint.

The teenager, whose identity has not been released, demanded a ransom of \$1.8 million and a getaway car during the six-hour standoff Oct. 18 at the Friedenschule, or Peace School, in the Stuttgart suburb of Waiblingen. Two of the hostages were 12-year-olds, while the others were aged 11 and 14.

Iranian cleric’s arrest: Iranian authorities have lifted the house arrest of Iran’s most senior dissident cleric after five years, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported Monday.

The decision to lift the house arrest of Grand Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri — the man once in line to succeed Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini as Iran’s supreme leader — was issued by the Supreme National Security Council, the highest security decision-making body. It will take effect Tuesday.

Montazeri has been confined to his home since November 1997, when he said Iran’s supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, was not competent to issue religious rulings.

War on terrorism

Kuwaiti shooting: A U.S. businessman shot in Kuwait last week was admitted to an American military hospital in Germany on Monday and was in good and stable condition, a hospital spokeswoman said.

David Caraway, 37, was injured Jan. 21 when he was ambushed on a road leading to Camp Doha, where thousands of U.S. troops are based ahead of a possible war on Iraq. His colleague, Michael Rene Pouliot, 46, was killed in the attack.

Both men were civilian contractors working for the U.S. military under the auspices of their San Diego, Calif.-based software company, Tapesstry Solutions.

From wire services

World leaders call for patience, say inspectors need more time

BY ED JOHNSON

The Associated Press

LONDON — The United States and Britain on Monday accused Saddam Hussein of playing games with the United Nations and said the interim report by weapons inspectors showed Iraq had little intention of disarming.

But other members of the U.N. Security Council, including France and Germany, insisted inspectors needed more time to scour Iraq for weapons of mass destruction — a differing of views that could make or break international support for military intervention in Iraq.

“Time is running out,” said U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell. “We made it very clear ... that we could not allow the process of inspection to string us on forever.”

In Brussels, Belgium, where European Union foreign ministers urged Baghdad to cooperate more fully with U.N. arms inspectors, British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said Saddam was “making a charade of inspection” and was “practicing concealment.”

Other Security Council members with the same veto power as the United States disagreed.

“We share the view of many that this process has not been completed and more time is needed,” said China’s deputy U.N. ambassador, Zhang Yishan.

Russian Ambassador Sergey Lavrov said his country strongly supported calls “for inspections to continue.”

French Ambassador Jean-Marc de La Sabliere said inspectors might need “several weeks” or “a few months.”

Iraq insisted it had done everything it

could to aid in the hunt for banned arms programs. Iraq’s U.N. Ambassador, Mohammed al-Douri, told reporters: “We open all doors to Mr. Blix and his team. If there is something, he will find it. We have no hidden reports at all.”

Blix, who heads the hunt for biological and chemical weapons programs, said Iraq had not genuinely accepted the U.N. resolution demanding that it disarm. His nuclear inspection counterpart ElBaradei said there was no evidence so far that Iraq was reviving its nuclear program and said inspectors needed a “few months” to complete the search — a call echoed by several countries.

French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder agreed in a telephone conversation Monday that the inspectors should be given the time they need to complete their mission, the president’s office said.

Citizenship, war on their minds

Immigrant servicemembers rush to become Americans

The Associated Press

RED BANK, N.J. — If Victor Gallardo dies on a faraway battlefield, he wants it to be as an American.

The Marine corporal is one of many immigrants serving in the U.S. military who are getting government help to become citizens before their units are sent overseas for potential hostilities in Iraq or elsewhere.

Gallardo is one of several members of the 6th Motor Transport Battalion whose citizenship applications were pending when the reserve unit was activated Jan. 14. He still must wait a few weeks before his paperwork can be approved, but expects to take the citizenship oath before long.

"It's very important for me, in case we get into combat with anybody," said the 25-year-old native of Mexico. "If it's my day to go, I want it to be as a citizen of this country."

Enlisted personnel about to be deployed commonly request and receive speeded-up citizenship applications, said Tim Counts, a spokesman for the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Counts did not know how many servicemembers are seeking expedited citizenship.

One member of Gallardo's unit, Cpl. Benson Perez del Rosario of the Philippines, became a citizen Friday in a brief ceremony before his comrades at the reserve headquarters.

"You hear all the bad news about people coming here with drugs and smugglers," said Sgt. Maj. Jay Crowley of the motor transport unit. "These are guys who did things the right way, signed up to serve their country and want to become citizens."

Lance Cpl. Jorge Diaz, a Peruvian native also hoping for citizenship, said he is ready.

"I'm not scared. I'm excited," said Diaz, 28. "I gotta do what I gotta do."

Vaccine, attack fears lead some to freeze sperm

Stars and Stripes

Some servicemen heading to the Middle East are freezing their sperm before they ship out, according to a Monday report in USA Today.

Fear of vaccines and possible exposure to chemical and biological agents has prompted at least 80 men in the military to visit laboratories that process and store sperm, according to the report.

California Cryobank in Los Angeles is offering military men a year of free storage and discounts on sperm processing. The lab fielded about 80 calls and scheduled 37 appointments in the past three

weeks, client manager Nolberto Delgadillo told USA Today.

Lab managers told the paper that the men making the inquiries aren't doing this in case they die in combat. Instead, they're concerned about coming home and discovering they're infertile and unable to start a family.

Women leaving for the war zone don't have a similar last-minute option because storing eggs has a low success rate, USA Today reported.

The military says there is no data linking mandatory vaccinations — or any other substance soldiers might encounter — and infertility.

U.S., Turks discuss financial aid package

ANKARA, Turkey — The United States is discussing an aid package with Turkey designed to cushion the economic shock of a possible war with Iraq, fallout that could reach \$15 billion, a U.S. official said Monday.

No dollar figure has been agreed to yet but the package would be designed to offset losses that international investment houses say could range between \$4 billion and \$15 billion, the official said.

The package of loans or grants would be based on whether Turkey cooperates in a war effort and would also be conditional on Turkey adhering to an IMF-backed economic program, the U.S. official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Kuwaiti soldier points gun at U.N. observers

KUWAIT CITY — A Kuwaiti soldier at a military checkpoint near the border with Iraq pointed his gun at two British U.N. observers Monday, said something to them in Arabic, laughed and walked away leaving them shaken but unharmed, a spokesman for the U.N. mission said.

Daljeet Bagga, the spokesman, said the two British observers in civilian clothes, who were riding in a U.N. vehicle, were "a bit shaken by the incident."

Bagga said the soldier "pointed a gun at the shoulder of the officer on the driver's side and then to his head." The British observers were "surprised and took out their IDs," and the man said something in Arabic, which they did not understand, and "went away from the scene," he said.

He did not identify the observers.

The observers reported the incident to Kuwaiti authorities, Bagga said.

Indonesians protest looming war with Iraq

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Holding signs that read "The U.S. is the real terrorist" and chanting "Attacking Iraq means attacking Muslims," about 2,000 Indonesians marched through the streets of the capital Sunday to protest a looming war with Baghdad.

Opposition to a war with Iraq remains high in Indonesia — the world's largest Muslim nation — and protests against it have gone on for months.

Indonesia has said the crisis should be settled through the United Nations and has warned of violent anti-American street demonstrations should a war erupt.

Protest organizers, mixing calls for peace with anti-American rhetoric, said they wanted to send the message to foreign dignitaries in the country that there are alternatives to bombing Iraq.

Baggage screener test

NEW YORK — Four baggage screeners at LaGuardia Airport said they were given answers to questions on a certification test moments before they took the exam, Newsday reported Sunday.

The screeners, who spoke on condition they not be identified, said an instructor would teach for several hours, then read and answer several multiple-choice questions. The same questions appeared on the test administered moments later, they told the newspaper.

"It was pretty much set up so that you shouldn't have any way to fail," one screener said.

Mark Hatfield, a spokesman for the federal Transportation Security Administration, said he found the screeners' statements "highly suspect."

From The Associated Press

Tax season more palatable for troops

BY WARD SANDERSON
Stars and Stripes

Tax centers are opening next week across Europe.

Troops traditionally can look forward to refunds. And this year, nontaxable income doesn't count against eligibility for the earned income tax credit. That means housing allowances or pay earned in combat zones won't be factors.

"A much broader selection of soldiers are eligible for the earned income tax credit," said John Martensen, chief legal assistant for U.S. Army Europe. That means even oft-deployed senior enlisted troops or officers can qualify for the tax break, originally designed as an incentive to work for low-income families."

Another tax change comes

from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service. According to spokesman Bryan Hubbard, troops and civilians who work for the military can view, save and print their W-2 forms via the Internet.

"With impending deployments for many of our folks, I know lots of folks have been waiting for this," Hubbard said in his announcement of the service.

The agency is also trying to recruit troops to voluntarily stop their printed W-2 forms to save on paper and expenses. For more information, try: www.dfas.mil/my pay/.

Taxpayers need to avoid a series of common mistakes:

■ **Paperwork bungling.** "The classic ones that we see are the record-keeping problems," Martensen said. People lose mutual funds records or forget their capital gains.

"If you want to get squirrelly with the IRS, the last thing you want to do is not report something the IRS already has in their computer," Martensen said. "It's not going to be a jailable offense, unless it's a huge amount of money. It's going to generate unwanted correspondence, and they're going to cut the refund."

Taxpayers should bring a copy of the previous year's return. That can help serve as a guide.

■ **Identity messes.** "Taxpayers, a lot of times, don't know what name their Social Security number is attached to," Martensen said.

Though it sounds strange at first, it's not uncommon. Women get married and change last names. If the Social Security Administration

isn't notified of the change, it can invalidate the number for tax purposes-sabotaging an e-file submission or causing a child exemption to be thrown out.

"It can cost thousands of dollars," Martensen said.

■ **Banking mistakes.** People need to bring their banking information, such as account and routing numbers, when filing electronically. They should bring a check with them to the tax preparer if unsure about the numbers.

If the numbers are off, a third party could receive a filer's refund.

"If those numbers aren't correct, the IRS pushes the button, and somewhere in Anchorage, Alaska, Daddy Warbucks got your tax return," Martensen said.

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Army tests new camouflage patterns

BY MARK OLIVA
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The Army's black berets might be getting a new look.

Researchers at the U.S. Army's Soldier Systems Center in Natick, Mass., are testing several camouflage patterns — including a specific design for urban terrain — that possibly could become the new standard for soldiers. This is the same laboratory that researched and designed the Marines' digital-patterned uniform distinct to the Corps.

Army officials are considering patterns of "all over brush," "shadow line" and "track" in combinations of four colors. The goal: Help conceal soldiers better than the current woodland pattern, fielded in 1981.

"Woodland camouflage is still based on the European threat of the Cold War," said Anabela Dugas, textile technologist at the Soldier Systems Center. "There are new threats today, and there's always room for improvement. Until we do an evaluation, we don't know if there's a better alternative."

Researchers employed the same technology used to design the Marine Pattern uniform, but with a different development process. The same computer

software assisted in the new pattern designs and color placement. With the Marine effort, researchers modified patterns already available, both from foreign militaries and commercially. The Army effort, though, started from scratch.

The "all over brush" design has swirls in a range of colors and shapes, looking like the stroke of a paintbrush. "Shadow lines" features horizontal lines; the "track" patterns have vertical lines. Each design was printed in a nylon-cotton blend of fabric and an ink jet printer and sewn together for helmet covers and battle dress uniform shirts and trousers.

"Initial evaluations for visual performance have been conducted at National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., for desert and at ... Fort Benning, Ga., for woodland and urban," Dugas said. "A second phase of evaluations, including nighttime, will be conducted at NTC and at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La., in March and April."

Questionnaires will ask soldiers from various jobs to comment on what works — and what doesn't. The soldiers will note their observations of the uniforms at varying distances and backgrounds. That information will be incorporated into the final design, which could be selected for recommendation by April.

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USAFE award winners

U.S. Air Forces in Europe officials recently announced the winners of the 2002 Contracting Awards.

Outstanding Contracting Unit: **31st Contracting Squadron**, Aviano Air Base, Italy.

■ Outstanding Contracting Unit (GSU): **423rd Air Base Squadron**, RAF Molesworth, England.

■ Outstanding Contracting Team: **39th Contracting Contingency Cell**, Incirlik AB, Turkey.

■ Special Recognition Team: **Army Support Flight**, USAFE Contracting, Kaiserslautern, Germany.

Individual winners:

■ Professionalism in Contracting (supervisory): **Lt. Col. Vincent J. Peck**, 31st CONS, Aviano.

■ Professionalism in Contracting (nonsupervisory): **Master Sgt. Donna J. Aucoin**, 39th CONS, Incirlik.

■ Outstanding Contracting Officer (field grade): **Lt. Col. Brenda J. Bobbitt**, USAFE CONS, Kaiserslautern.

■ Outstanding Contracting Officer (company grade): **1st Lt. Brett N. Kayes**, 52nd CONS, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.

■ Outstanding Contracting Civilian (GS-12 and above): **Wayne R. Buechler**, 48th CONS, RAF Lakenheath, England.

■ Outstanding Contracting Civilian (GS-11 and below): **Brian J. Wallace**, 423rd ABS, RAF Molesworth.

■ Outstanding Contracting Staff Officer: **Maj. Albert D. Bryson**, HQ USAFE, Ramstein.

■ Outstanding Contracting Enlisted Member (Senior NCO): **Master Sgt. Mary L. De Coste**, 31st CONS, Aviano.

■ Outstanding Contracting Enlisted Member (NCO): **Tech. Sgt. Michael N. Hogan**, 423rd ABS, RAF Molesworth.

■ Outstanding Contracting Enlisted Member (Airman): **Senior Airman Shafinah Rosauro**, USAFE CONS, Kaiserslautern.

■ Outstanding Contingency Contracting Award Officer: **Maj. Jennifer A. Block**, USAFE CONS, Kaiserslautern.

■ Outstanding Contingency Contracting Award Enlisted: **Master Sgt. Michael W. Daniels**, 48th CONS, RAF Lakenheath.

■ Outstanding Pricing: **Uschi Howermann**, USAFE CONS, Kaiserslautern.

■ Outstanding Contracting Support: **Kelly R. Rhodes**, 39th CONS, Incirlik.

■ Outstanding Quality Assurance Evaluator: **Staff Sgt. Karen S. Keys**, 39th Services Squadron, Incirlik.

■ Special Recognition Individual: **Tech. Sgt. Maria T. Wirhouski**, 31st CONS, Aviano.

From staff reports

Former GI's suit over vaccine dismissed

BY ROBERT WELLER

The Associated Press

DENVER — U.S. District Court Judge Edward Nottingham dismissed a lawsuit Friday by a female soldier given a less than honorable discharge for refusing to be vaccinated against anthrax, but said he had concerns about the military's program.

Lawyers for former Pfc. Jemeka Barber argued the military violated her constitutional rights by requiring her to be vaccinated, even though it would have made it dangerous for her to become pregnant for at least 18 months.

She was a newlywed and anticipated having children.

Nottingham said allowing the lawsuit to proceed "would significantly interfere with the function of the military." He added that Barber hasn't exhausted her options in the military's justice system.

Nottingham said he was not endorsing the vaccination campaign, however.

"If the court were reviewing the program the court would be very concerned by the questions raised by the plaintiff," Nottingham said. "The military will be held accountable if it is using its own soldiers as guinea pigs."

Nottingham said there was no dispute that the effectiveness of the anthrax vaccina-

tion as given by the military remained unproven.

He noted that a majority of courts have held that lawsuits can go ahead even though administrative remedies remain, but in this case he was siding with the minority opinion.

John Suthers, U.S. attorney for Denver, praised the decision.

"Today's court decision underscores the right of the Department of Defense to determine potential threats to military personnel and to take the necessary steps to protect them. It is of paramount importance that the Department of Defense be able to direct

military personnel in a manner that is in the best interest of national security."

Herbert Fenster, Barber's chief counsel, said the judge had declared there was no proof the vaccine was effective. "This means the Army violated the law by requiring soldiers to be vaccinated," Fenster said.

Fenster said the issue is more serious for female soldiers, because the military acknowledges the vaccination could be a health threat during pregnancy. Her constitutional rights were violated because she effectively would have had to abstain from reproductive sex for at least 18 months, Fenster said.

Big help from tiny device

The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Federal researchers have developed an early warning device small enough to mount on a drone aircraft to detect deadly airborne gas — a weapon officials fear Iraq may use against U.S. forces.

Once the SnifferSTAR — which has not yet been tested on an airborne drone — is mounted, it can sample the air for various contaminants, Sandia National Laboratories spokesman Neil Singer said Sunday.

"It's a gas detector. It would fit in with a grouping of sensors that have been developed at Sandia and other places. Presumably, it could monitor those gases we suspect that [the Iraqis] have," Singer said.

The flow of air past the moving aircraft would channel the gases through the device. Contaminants stick to quartz surfaces that vibrate at pre-set frequencies. The weight of the contaminants alter the frequencies and reveal their chemical signature.

"We have very few false positives," said researcher Doug Adkins.

Adkins says other gas monitors exist but are not this small — tiny sensors sitting on a mini-platform about the size of a pat of butter, which in turn rests on a microprocessor board smaller than a credit card. It requires little power to operate and offers rapid analysis, he said.

"Rapid analysis currently is not possible with any other package near this size," Adkins said in a statement released by the lab.

Secretary of State Colin Powell said last weekend that Iraq was concealing deadly gases. He said Iraq's 12,000-page weapons declaration does not account for biological and chemical agents, chemical shells and nuclear documents — each of which "has the potential to kill thousands upon thousands of innocent human beings."

Chinese official warns U.S., Taiwan not to hold joint military exercises

BY JOE McDONALD

The Associated Press

BEIJING — A senior Chinese official warned Monday against Washington holding joint military exercises with Taiwan, saying it would damage ties with Beijing and encourage activists who want the island to declare formal independence.

The official's comments came amid reports that U.S. forces will take part in Taiwanese military drills this year, though he did not talk specifically about those exercises.

"Joint U.S.-Taiwanese military operations are more harmful to U.S.-Chinese relations than arms sales," said the official, who spoke to a group of foreign reporters on condition that he not be identified further.

Taiwan and China have been ruled separately since splitting in 1949 amid civil war. The communist mainland government claims the island as its territory and has threatened to attack if it declares formal independence or delays talks on unification.

The United States is Taiwan's biggest arms supplier — a chronic sore point in relations with Beijing. But Washington withdrew its military presence from the island in 1979 when it switched official recognition to Beijing.

Taiwanese news reports said this month that U.S. forces are to take part this year in Taiwan's annual military exercises for the first time in 20 years. U.S. officials have declined to confirm the reports, and no date has been announced for the drills.

The Chinese official said Beijing regards Taiwan as the key issue in relations with Washington. He reiterated Beijing's insistence on pursuing unification, but said it is eager to see that done peacefully.

China has accused Taiwan's President Chen Shui-bian of taking steps meant to prepare for independence. Despite public statements by President Bush that Washington doesn't support formal Taiwanese independence, the Chinese official complained that U.S. arms sales and talk of helping to defend Taiwan has encouraged pro-independence forces.

"Chen Shui-bian and his party have achieved so much in terms of 'creeping independence' because the United States is sending the wrong signal," the official said. "It's so clear that they believe the United States is supporting them."

The comments were part of Beijing's recent efforts to downplay military threats and stress economic and other possible benefits to Taiwan of closer integration with the mainland.

Anniversary takes on new meaning

Landmark agreement signed 58 years after Auschwitz liberation

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

The Associated Press

BERLIN — The German government and the country's fast-growing Jewish community opened a new chapter in their relationship Monday, marking the annual day of remembrance for victims of the Holocaust with an accord that gives Germany's main Jewish organization the same legal status as the country's main churches.

The signing of the agreement by Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder and Paul Spiegel, the head of the Central Council of Jews, came on the 58th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp.

"No one, but no one, would have believed in 1945 that there could ever be Jewish life

in Germany again," Spiegel said at the signing ceremony at the Berlin chancellery. "Today, we are even tempted to speak of a coming renaissance of Jewry in Germany. No one could have imagined that a few years ago."

Germany's once-strong Jewish community of 500,000 was decimated in the Holocaust, in which 6 million European Jews were murdered.

From some 15,000 Jews living in Germany after World War II, the community grew to 30,000 a decade ago, but has since burgeoned to 100,000 with Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

The accord recognizes the importance of Jewish life in Germany and triples the council's annual government funding to \$3.2 million, reflecting

the surge in size of the Jewish community.

It establishes the first legal partnership between the Jewish community and the government since World War II, in the spirit of similar agreements with the Roman Catholic and Lutheran churches under which the state finances the costs of some institutions, such as schools.

"Remembering the Holocaust is thus bound up with a declaration in favor of a good and secure future for Jews in Germany," Schroeder said.

The additional resources will help the community, among other things, train more rabbis and introduce Jewish rites to immigrants who grew up under communism without a religious education.

The government is supporting the Central Council's efforts to integrate those newcomers into German society, also with the aim of combating anti-Semitism and far-right violence that Jewish leaders fear is on the rise.

"Germany is without doubt a stable democracy," Spiegel said. "But this society unfortunately doesn't understand that ... for the sake of its own dignity, it cannot allow this kind of inhumanity to grow in its midst."

More than a million people, 90 percent of them Jewish, perished in gas chambers or died of starvation and disease at the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex. It was liberated by advancing Soviet troops on Jan. 27, 1945, a date marked in Germany with a day of national remembrance since 1996.

Jury panel seated in rare espionage trial

BY JONATHAN D. SALANT

The Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Twelve jurors and four alternates were selected Monday for the first espionage trial in 50 years that could lead to a death sentence.

Lawyers for both sides used more than half of their challenges as they selected the jury that will determine the fate of Brian Patrick Regan, a retired Air Force master sergeant charged with offering secrets to Iraq, Libya and China for \$13 million.

The all-white jury includes seven women.

Opening statements were expected to be completed Monday afternoon.

If convicted, Regan could be the first American executed for spying since Julius and Ethel Rosenberg in June 1953. The Rosenbergs were convicted of conspiring to steal U.S. atomic secrets for the Soviet Union.

Regan's trial is being held in the same federal courthouse where John Walker Lindh was sentenced to 20 years in prison last year for fighting with the Taliban militia in Afghanistan.

It's rare for a spy case to go to trial. The government usually would rather cut a deal than run the risk of revealing in open court the ways it tracks spies.

Even when information provided by the CIA's Aldrich Ames or the FBI's Robert Hanssen led to the execution of U.S. agents overseas, the government avoided a trial and agreed to plea bargains where both men were sentenced to life without parole.

Regan is charged with three counts of attempted espionage and one of illegally gathering national security information. He has pleaded innocent.

The defense team and the U.S. attorney's office declined to comment on whether the government offered an out-of-court settlement.

One of Regan's lawyers, Nina Ginsberg, has called the decision to seek the death penalty "disproportionate."

John Parry, a law professor at the University of Pittsburgh and a specialist on the death penalty, said because of the Sept. 11 attacks, federal authorities may see it as important to seek the ultimate punishment in a case involving alleged spying for two countries the State Department has labeled sponsors of terrorism — Libya and Iraq.

"There is a belief that this is worse espionage because of who is getting the material, and the risk and danger those people pose to our country," Parry said. "Giving things to the Russians is bad, but not threatening in the same way as giving things to irrational terrorists or those who support them."

No cameras at Malvo hearing

FAIRFAX, Va. — Cameras will not be permitted in the courtroom for the case against sniper suspect Lee Boyd Malvo, a judge has decided.

Malvo will be in Fairfax County Circuit Court on Tuesday to set a date for his upcoming capital murder trial.

Circuit Court Judge Jane Roush, who will preside over Malvo's trial, decided Monday that she will not allow cameras for the time being, although she left open the possibility that she would later on. Roush's ruling bars still and TV cameras.

Malvo and his alleged accomplice, John Allen Muhammad, are accused of shooting 18 people, killing 13 and wounding five in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Digital music for masses

LOS ANGELES — Six retail record store chains are teaming to offer consumers digital music downloads in their stores and over the Internet.

The stores have formed the joint venture Echo, which that will allow them to offer individual tracks for downloading to portable devices and computers.

The stores are Best Buy, Tower Records, Virgin Entertainment Group, Warehouse Music, Hastings Entertainment Inc. and Trans World Entertainment Corp., operator of FYE, Strawberies and Coconuts stores.

From The Associated Press

Turkey quake kills at least 1

The Associated Press

SAGLAMTAS, Turkey — A strong earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.5 shook a snow-covered mountainous area of eastern Turkey on Monday, killing a 65-year-old woman who was feeding her livestock in a barn.

At least six people were reported injured after jumping out of windows in panic.

The quake struck the eastern province of Tunceli at 7:26 a.m., the Istanbul-based Kandilli seismology center said. The epicenter of the quake was the town of Pulumur. It was also felt in the nearby provinces of Erzincan, Erzurum, Elazig and Sivas.

The only known fatality was Esma Yildirim, 65, who was killed when her stone barn collapsed in Saglamtas, a village some 12 miles outside of Pulumur.

Three students were injured when they threw themselves out of the window of their hostel, Public Works Minister Zeki Ergezen told The Associated Press. Three other people were injured in Erz-

incan province also after jumping out of windows, the Anatolia news agency reported.

The quake caused damage to homes in some 40 villages near Pulumur, Anatolia said. A boarding school for village children in Pulumur was also damaged.

Ten out of the 30 houses in Saglamtas had partly collapsed.

There were few people killed as most of the villagers were outside of their homes, tending their sheep and cows when the quake struck.

Sirin Aslan said she rushed out of her home with her mother when the quake hit, sending furniture and a television set tumbling down.

"When we got out I could see rocks rolling down from the mountain," she said. "It is a miracle. I still don't know how we got out."

Military vehicles loaded with tents were seen traveling to Pulumur. Ertan Gonen, the head of Turkey's Red Crescent organization, said thousands of tents, blankets and heaters were sent.

The quake was followed by three mild aftershocks.

Tornado strikes Cyprus

LIMASSOL, Cyprus — A tornado touched down Monday near the port area of Limassol, extensively damaging shops and property, and littering the streets with trees, broken glass, water tanks ripped from rooftops. Twenty-eight people were injured, most of them slightly, police said.

The tornado, unusually powerful for the Mediterranean island, struck about 10 a.m.

About two hours later, a tornado also hit coastal area of Larnaca, near Kiti village, about 45 miles to the east, where police reported damage to homes and property, but no injuries were reported.

Teacher stabs seven in China

BEIJING — A teacher with a history of mental illness went on a rampage at a middle school in southern China, slashing four students to death with a vegetable knife and wounding three others, including a teacher, authorities said Monday.

Chen Peiquan was arrested Saturday at Yang Gan Middle School in Guangdong province, said an official at the public security bureau of Suixi county, where the school is located. He would only give his family name, Cheng.

It was not immediately clear what triggered the attacks, he said.

India warns Pakistan on using nukes

NEW DELHI, India — India's defense minister warned that Pakistan will be "erased from the world map" if it uses nuclear weapons against India, as the two sides exchanged mortar fire along their frontier Monday.

Pakistan responded by calling the comments by Defense Minister George Fernandes "typical Indian irresponsibility."

Indian and Pakistani troops traded mortar fire in Punch, a border district 145 miles northwest of Jammu, the winter capital of India's troubled Jammu-Kashmir state.

28 asylum-seekers arrive in S. Korea

SEOUL — Twenty-eight North Korean asylum-seekers who had taken refuge at the South Korean Embassy in Beijing arrived in South Korea early Monday for permanent settlement.

The North Koreans, including a 3-year-old girl, flew to Incheon International Airport west of Seoul after transiting through the Philippines overnight. The 19 women and nine men were immediately taken away for debriefing by government officials.

More than 1,100 North Koreans defected to South Korea last year.

Cold spell easing in south Asia

NEW DELHI, India — A fierce cold wave sweeping through south Asia showed signs of easing Sunday although 18 more people died from the weather bringing the death toll for the past five weeks to more than 1,900, officials and newspaper reports said Sunday.

Temperatures across northern India were rising but meteorological officials said nighttime temperatures would still be cold, 43 degrees Fahrenheit.

The state government distributed wood for public bonfires at street corners and the welfare department handed out blankets but quickly ran out, an official said.

From The Associated Press

Web worm traced to Hong Kong

The Associated Press

HONG KONG — Computer experts tried Monday to determine if a virus-like attack on the Internet over the weekend originated in Hong Kong as the president of South Korea, the hardest hit nation, ordered officials to safeguard that nation's computer networks.

A U.S. Internet executive said that disruptions appeared first in Hong Kong before spreading to other Pacific Rim nations and then onto the United States and Europe.

The government-funded Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team was investigating but said it would be hard to determine the origin of the Internet attack, which shut down millions of computer users in

South Korea and slowed or halted networks elsewhere.

"Checking the origin of the worm is like finding which part of a river a drop of water comes from," said S.C. Leung, senior consultant with the Hong Kong computer team.

The worm could have been timed for release during the Asian day and cropped up in Hong Kong when people began using their computers on Saturday, but that does not mean it was launched from Hong Kong, said Tom Ohlsson, a vice president at Matrix NetSystems of Austin, Texas.

The Washington Post reported that experts who studied the worm have found references in its coding to Honker, a Chinese hacker group believed to operate in mainland China and possibly in Hong Kong.

Barbie's appeal lost on Supreme Court

BY ANNE GEARAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Toymaker Mattel lost a Supreme Court appeal Monday over a mocking pop song that called the iconic fashion doll Barbie a "blonde bimbo."

The high court did not comment in turning down Mattel's request to reopen a trademark fight over the 1997 dance hit "Barbie Girl." Mattel claims the preteen girls who buy Barbie dolls were duped into thinking the song was an advertisement for the doll or part of Mattel's official line of Barbie products.

The song, by a Danish group called Aqua, includes the lyrics, "I'm a blonde bimbo in a fantasy world/Dress me up, make it tight, I'm your dolly."

Mattel Inc., which gets \$1.5 billion or more annually in Barbie sales, complained that an advertisement for the song ran during Saturday morning cartoons and that MCA Records Inc. even wanted to sell the recording at toy stores.

Ad materials for the song used the same electric pink that Mattel has used to package Barbie dolls for decades, lawyers for Mattel claimed.

MCA sold an estimated 1.4 million copies of the recording. The music company calls the song a parody protected by the First Amendment.

Mattel lost in lower courts, and the five-year tussle has gotten ugly. MCA sued Mattel for defamation after the toymaker likened the record firm to a bank robber.

Last year the California-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected the notion that consumers were misled by the song, noting that a pop art painting of a can of Campbell's Soup does not make viewers think Campbell's

"has branched into the art business."

Appeals Judge Alex Kozinski, known for colorful language, toyed with the two companies a bit. He noted that the original 1950s Barbie resembled a "German street walker," but was gradually transformed into a long-legged American with a "fictitious figure."

"With fame often comes unwanted attention," Kozinski wrote for a three-judge appeals panel. He closed his written opinion with a warning to both companies to play nice. "The parties are advised to chill," he wrote.

Billy Joel 'a very lucky man'

Billy Joel is lucky to be alive after smashing his new Mercedes-Benz into a tree on a Long Island, N.Y., road, authorities and witnesses said Sunday.

While the \$121,000 car was totaled, Joel, 53, escaped the Saturday night crash in Sag Harbor with a possible broken nose and cuts to his face. Joel, who had to be cut out of the wreckage, was alone in the car.

"I'd say he's a very lucky man," said Sag Harbor Fire Chief Matthew McAree. "What probably saved him was the fact that his car is new and well-equipped with air bags and safety equipment."

Police did not give a breath test for alcohol to the musician.

"There was no indication of a problem, no indication of drugs or alcohol," said Sag Harbor Police Detective Paul Fabiano. "A lot of accidents occur there. It must be a magnet for accidents."

"There was no alcohol involved," said Joel spokeswoman Jane Arginteanu. "He had an accident on a bad stretch of road."

Somers gets star

Suzanne Somers, who played ditsy blond Chrissy Snow on the 1970s sitcom "Three's Company," now has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

"And the nuns in Catholic school said I'd never get to heaven," Somers joked at the ceremony Friday. "This is heaven, and I'm just floating in it."

Somers, 56, also is author of 10 books on weight loss and owns the ThighMaster line of fitness products. She attributed her success to hard work.

Faces 'n' places

"If you believe in yourself, and you focus, and you're willing to work like a dog, you can make your dreams come true," she said.

Somers' star is near the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, site of the first Academy Awards ceremony. On hand to see Somers honored were singer Barry Manilow, entertainer Merv Griffin and CBS Television President Leslie Moonves.

Cedric entertains NAACP

The NAACP chose Cedric the Entertainer to host its upcoming Image Awards show despite his jokes in the film "Barbershop" that angered some black leaders.

His character made mocking remarks in the film about civil rights icons the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks, sparking complaints upon its release in September from the Revs. Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton.

Kweisi Mfume, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said the uproar was "overblown."

Mfume said Thursday he hoped choosing the comedian as host would help put the controversy to rest.

The 34th annual ceremony is set for March 8 at the Universal Amphitheatre in Los Angeles, and Fox will broadcast a tape of the program on March 13.

Presidential honor

Jack Guy wanted somebody famous to hand out the first checks from a program he set up to honor outstanding

teachers here in his hometown, Claxton, Ga. So he phoned an old World War II buddy, George Bush.

The former president said he'd gladly oblige and even brought along former first lady Barbara Bush for Friday's ceremony.

Before 600 people crowded into the elementary school gym, Guy and the Bushes presented \$2,500 checks to Teresa Eason, who teaches kindergarten, and special education teacher Erin Stone.

"When I think of all the good you all are doing, I have no doubt you are doing God's work right here on earth," Bush told the audience of mostly teachers. "And that makes all of you winners."

Guy, a former stock broker and financial consultant, established the awards program with \$40,000 after hearing a speech by first lady Laura Bush.

Asia loves Avril

Singer Avril Lavigne won favorite female artist, favorite breakthrough artist and the style award at the second annual MTV Asia Awards.

Linkin Park won the favorite rock act and favorite video awards.

The awards were presented Friday night before an audience of 8,000 at Singapore's Indoor Stadium.

Performers included Lavigne, Missy Elliot, Robbie Williams, the British band Blue and Singapore's hometown diva, Stefanie Sun.

Nineteen awards were presented to artists and personalities selected by viewers from 10 countries in the region.

The three-hour show was co-hosted by Jamaican rapper Shaggy and Hong Kong pop star Coco Lee.

From wire reports

Picked apart

Bucs return 3 interceptions for TDs, dominate Raiders to win Super Bowl

BY BARRY WILNER
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — They were the laughingstocks of the NFL, maybe of all pro sports.

They had garish orange uniforms with a winking pirate on the helmet. Losing 10 games came automatically. Wasting high draft picks was a given.

Those Tampa Bay Buccaneers were buried Sunday with a flourish.

Led by a fearsome defense, a suddenly dynamic offense and a coach who brought the final fiery touch, the Bucs routed the Oakland Raiders 48-21 in the Super Bowl.

Laughingstock? Try champions.

"For all this franchise has been through, nothing could be sweeter," veteran safety John Lynch said. "Super Bowl champs. Wow!"

Yep, wow. As in five interceptions of league MVP Rich Gannon, three of them returned for touchdowns — two by nickel back Dwight Smith, a Super Bowl record, and one by NFL defensive player of the year Derrick Brooks. The other two pickoffs went to Super Bowl MVP Dexter Jackson.

As in holding the game's No. 1 offense to 62 yards and three first downs in the first half, which ended 20-3.

As in staging consecutive touchdown drives of 77 and 89 yards, both concluding with passes to Keenan McCardell, a 5-yard score and an 8-yarder.

Whatever the Bucs tried seemed to work. It was as if coach Jon Gruden, acquired from the Raiders last February for four high draft picks and \$8 million, had drawn up the game plan for both teams.

In a way, he had.

"Jon Gruden was Gannon," said Bucs defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin, whose unit also had five sacks and yielded all of 19 yards rushing. "Nobody can be like Gannon like Gruden can. He taught Gannon. He was in Gannon's head."

But Gruden played down that apparent advantage.

"That was all overrated," he said. "I stayed away from the defense. That's a credit to our players. We've got a great defensive club."

So great that All-Pro tackle Warren Sapp was willing to proclaim it the best ever. Before he attempted to light a foot-long victory cigar, Sapp compared the unit that allowed only 196 points this season — and just two touchdowns in the playoffs that were not tainted by special teams gaffes — to the legendary defenses.

"We had to have that championship before we could say anything," Sapp said. "Now you can put us in the same sentence as the Ravens and the Steel Curtain."

"But I don't think any of them faced the kind of offense like we did. None of them went into the Super Bowl and played the No. 1 offense. And we put a stranglehold on them."

Almost from the very start. Brad Johnson was hit as he threw on Tampa Bay's third play from scrimmage. The ball fluttered short of a wide-open McCardell to cornerback Charles Woodson.

Just like that, the vaunted Oakland attack was at the Bucs 36. But Tampa Bay held the Raiders to Sebastian Janikowski's 40-yard field goal.

The next 34 points belonged to the Bucs.

Martin Gramatica tied it with a 31-yarder, and Jackson got his first interception near the end of the opening quarter. That led to Gramatica's 43-yarder.

While Jackson's second interception on the next series did not lead to points, the defense had fully asserted itself.

"Give them a lot of credit," Gannon said. "They performed exceptionally well on defense and we couldn't do what we wanted to do. The turnovers obviously killed us. It was a nightmarish performance."

It was the kind of performance people expected from the old Bucs, the ones who lost their first 26 games (0-14 in their debut season of 1976) and, in one

14-year stretch, had 13 seasons with at least 10 losses, including 12 in a row. On Sunday, it was the Raiders who were inept on both sides.

The worst came after Tampa Bay took a 13-3 lead on Mike Alstott's 2-yard run that Karl Williams set up with a 25-yard punt return. Looking to get back into it, the Raiders wound up punting, and the Bucs went on a 77-yard drive to McCardell's first touchdown catch.

After an Oakland three-and-out to start the second half, Tampa Bay covered 89 yards in 14 plays and nearly eight minutes, with McCardell scoring from the 8.

Two plays after that, Smith cut in front of Jerry Rice and stole a poor pass from Gannon, sprinting 44 yards to make it 34-3.

"This is the thing I've been doing for 17 years of my life," said Smith, one of the least-heralded Bucs defenders. "Play football and make plays was what I was known to do."

Better known for doing it are Sapp, Brooks, Lynch, Simeon Rice (two sacks and relentless pressure), Ronde Barber and Brian Kelly.

But Smith and Jackson got many of the accolades this night.

"When I first came to the team I knew they had some great players like the Sapps, the Lynches and the Brookses," Jackson said. "These guys came from nothing and came together as a championship caliber team."

That they came together on offense, as well, made this rout even more impressive. Many expected the Bucs to outdo the Raiders defensively. But to also have the game's most dynamic offense before 67,603 fans — none of them wearing that awful orange — might have been too much to ask.

"It's so awesome after what this franchise has been through," Lynch said. "You got to go prove it, but we knew that we had it, and that's what Jon did so well, make us believe it. One of his first words was that we are going to win a world championship. We never wavered from that fact. ... It's unreal."

Gruden proves a real nightmare for Raiders

BY BERNIE WILSON
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Add one more impersonation to Jon Gruden's repertoire.

The coach known as "Chucky" — for his striking resemblance to a blood-thirsty doll from a horror movie — also does a crack job of playing Rich Gannon.

Gruden knew so much about his former team and its quarterback that he designed a perfect game plan that his Tampa Bay Buccaneers used to rout the Oakland Raiders 48-21 in the Super Bowl on Sunday.

"Jon Gruden was Gannon," Bucs defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin said. "Nobody can be like Gannon like Gruden can. He taught Gannon. He was in Gannon's head."

Gruden got into Gannon's wheelhouse so much that the NFL's MVP threw a season-high five interceptions, three of which were returned for touchdowns by Tampa Bay's stifling defense.

In Thursday's practice, Gruden even took over as quarterback on the scout team and ran several plays.

"The film illustrates that I did complete two or three passes. I was very intimidating under center," Gruden joked

after the game, surrounded by his wife and three young boys. "I've got great respect for Rich Gannon as a quarterback. I wanted our team to just get a feel for what it was going to be like with him in command. He's a special guy and I wanted them to try to feel it a little bit," he said.

"He's still bragging about it," strong safety John Lynch said. "He took it down the field. It was probably because we were laughing so much."

Seriously, though, "he gave us a tremendous scouting report," Lynch said.

Lynch was miked for TV during the game. "Every play they've run, we've run in practice," he said on the sideline before halftime.

Linebacker Derrick Brooks said Gruden's practice appearance "was a huge key for us, to try to give us a small glimpse of how Rich Gannon sees defenses."

"We were embarrassed because he completed two passes," Brooks said, laughing.

The lesson paid off, though. Brooks, the NFL's defensive player of the year, scored on a 44-yard interception return with just more than a minute left in the game.

After coaching the Raiders for four seasons, Gruden was effectively traded by Al Davis to the Buccaneers last

February for two first-round draft picks, two second-round picks and \$8 million.

The deal proved to be worth every penny — and pickoff — to the Bucs.

When the Raiders and Buccaneers made it to the Super Bowl, it was advantage, Gruden. The best pirates on the field were the ones dressed in red and pewter, not silver and black.

Gannon was one of Gruden's best friends on the Raiders. He downplayed Gruden's insider knowledge, saying that Oakland's coaches knew his tendencies, too. Most of them worked under Gruden, including Raiders head coach Bill Callahan.

"I don't know if that was a major factor," Gannon said. "I just think their defense played really well and we didn't play well offensively. As a team we didn't play well."

Still, Gannon called it a "nightmarish performance. You hate to have an exhibition like that in this kind of something."

Gruden's knowledge of the Raiders was probably best illustrated when cornerback Dwight Smith stepped in front of Jerry Rice for a 44-yard interception return and a 34-3 lead with 4:47 left in the third quarter.

As Smith raced toward the end zone, Gruden was a few feet out on the field,

running along behind the play, pumping his right fist and then thrusting both arms in the air, a huge smile on his face.

In the closing seconds of the first half, he also pumped his fist and ran onto the field after Keenan McCardell caught a 5-yard touchdown pass from Brad Johnson, capping a 78-yard, 10-play drive that gave the Bucs a 20-3 halftime lead.

Gruden is incredibly intense and shows up for work just after 3 a.m. every day. He dissects film in a room he calls his "football laboratory."

At Tuesday's media day, Gruden was making those famous twisted faces of his at all the questions about facing Davis and his old team. On Friday, Gruden said it had been "a real strange week for me."

And on Sunday, he led the Buccaneers to their first Super Bowl title, in their first try.

Tampa Bay has the NFL's most dominating defense, and it handled the Raiders so thoroughly that red-clad Bucs' fans chanted "BOR-ING, BOR-ING" as Gannon broke out of the huddle to begin a drive late in the third quarter.

Dexter Jackson, the game's MVP, had the first two interceptions against Gannon. Smith also had a 50-yard interception return for a TD, with two seconds to play.

Little explanation given for departure

Raiders All-Pro center Robbins left team shortly before big game

BY GREG BEACHAM

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Midway through the first quarter of the Super Bowl, the Oakland Raiders gave the ball to little-used Zack Crockett for consecutive rushing plays that netted 5 yards.

That's right: Just a few minutes into the Super Bowl, one of the NFL's most prolific passing offenses in recent years was trying to run the ball.

It was completely out of character for a team that ran exactly one rushing play in the first three quarters of the AFC title game — but then again, the Raiders looked nothing like themselves for most of Sunday, and All-Pro center Barret Robbins' unexplained absence was just one of many reasons for it.

From the overmatched line's terrible performance to their nonexistent running game to Rich Gannon's poor decisions, the Raiders were humbled by the Buccaneers' league-best defense in Tampa Bay's 48-21 victory.

"For whatever reason, we didn't have it today," Gannon said.

"It's a disappointment for everybody. ... Yeah, it hurts to look at it that way, but [the season] is probably a failure."

The Raiders' offense was consistent all season, but it had periods of ineffectiveness against athletic defenses, and no defense is more athletic than Tampa Bay. Coach Bill Callahan resorted to any means to fix it — including running the ball, albeit completely ineffectively.

Part of that blame should go to Robbins, the gritty veteran heart of the Raiders' line. He spent Sunday in a hospital after mysteriously leaving his teammates on their final day of preparation for the Super Bowl, but Adam Treu played well in his place, leaving his teammates scraping for explanations of their performance.

"Offensively, we didn't get it done, and it starts up front," left tackle Barry Sims said. "It doesn't help to have a Pro Bowler missing. We need all our guys, especially at the pinnacle of the sport in the biggest game of our lives."

Many of the Raiders apparently didn't know the reason for Robbins' absence from their Saturday activities. Several other players declined comment, while Callahan said he wouldn't discuss specifics until the team returned to Oakland on Monday.

"If somebody chooses to do something wrong, nobody can tell them what to do," guard Frank Middleton said. "We have to go with the guys who want to be here. ... My concern is not B-Robb. He's safe, and he paid the price for what he did. I haven't talked to him, and I don't know if I'm going to talk to him."

The Raiders were out of sorts from their first possession, and Robbins' predicament undoubtedly was a factor in their mental preparation. Robbins' teammates had known he wouldn't play since Saturday afternoon, shortly before he missed their final team meeting.

Gannon, the Raiders' MVP quarterback playing in his first Super Bowl after 15 NFL seasons, didn't mishandle any snaps from Treu, but almost every-

thing else was a problem for the league's most prolific quarterback.

He went 24-for-44 for 272 yards with a Super Bowl-record five interceptions — after throwing just 11 interceptions in his first 18 games this season. Gannon hadn't thrown more than two interceptions in any game during the past two years; what's more, he was sacked five times and constantly hurried by Tampa Bay's pass rush.

"All the guys stuck together, but we didn't see it coming," said Treu, who found out Saturday afternoon that he would start.

The Buccaneers' two-deep zone kept the Raiders' talented receivers from getting the space in which they often turned short catches into long gains this season.

The Raiders averaged 390 yards in the regular season. They had 72 midway through the third quarter, when Tampa Bay retreated to a three-man pass rush and allowed Gannon a moment to breathe in the pocket. The quarterback immediately drove Oakland to its first touchdown.

Sunday still Super aboard USS Truman

Midnight kickoff doesn't keep fans on carrier from enjoying game

BY KENDRA HELMER

Stars and Stripes

ABOARD THE USS HARRY S. TRUMAN — It's Fireman Frank Hicks' birthday — Super Bowl Sunday — and the Florida native's Buccaneers are thrashing the Oakland Raiders.

Just one problem: He's in the galley, shoveling out food to about 2,000 troops who are staying up late to watch the game.

"It sucks to be working, on my birthday and during the Super Bowl," said Hicks, who managed to get away a few times to see Tampa Bay triumph 48-21.

As deployed troops watched from remote places such as Afghanistan, Bosnia and Kuwait, the Truman's sailors hunkered around some of the aircraft

carrier's 2,500 televisions, watching the game from their racks, office spaces and mess decks.

While the officer's wardroom was deserted a couple of hours after the midnight kickoff (most pilots turning in to rest for morning flights over the Adriatic Sea), elsewhere cheers and groans could be heard until the game ended at 4 a.m.

Some football fans were able to swing later shifts Monday so they could sleep before work.

Sailors in an administrative office were engrossed in a game of dominoes, not exactly riveted by the action on the TV. At least not until a sexily clad Shania Twain performed at halftime.

"Man, that's the best part of the game," one sailor said.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Terrill Murriel

slept all day so he could stay up for the Super Bowl. He shook his head and covered his face as Tampa pummeled Oakland.

"They better pull through. If not, I'll take my anger out on someone," he said.

Enter Seaman Leroy Myrick, a Tampa native. "What's the score like, 20 to 3?" Myrick taunted.

"Man, why you gotta say that?" Murriel said. "You'll be the one I'm taking my anger all out on."

Up the passageway on the mess decks, about 50 servicemembers munched hot wings, nachos and chicken tenders. They snagged more food during the breaks, bemoaning the fact that the amusing stateside commercials were replaced by American Forces Network spots warning them not to drink and drive.

Airman Maurice Reid danced around in front of the big-screen TV, bragging about his prediction that the Bucs would prevail.

"In order to back my word up that I know my sports, I'm willing to stay up this late," he said.

"Game over!" he yelled, slapping hands with Airman Albert Crews, a jubilant Tampa native. Crews said his dad would drag him to Bucs games during some rough seasons.

"Now you can't even get tickets for a game," he said. "My dad has probably already e-mailed me about 10 times tonight."

Crews smiled and said his dad will rush to the post office this week to send him new workout attire: a Super Bowl shirt.

E-mail Kendra Helmer at:
helmerk@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Big game brings 'slice of America' to U.S. soldiers

BY MARK KENNEDY

The Associated Press

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Staff Sgt. Samuel Colon-Escobar was up hours before dawn to watch the Super Bowl.

"It's a piece of home. It's a slice of America," said 31-year-old Colon-Escobar, one of thousands of troops who watched the Super Bowl on TV early Monday at Bagram Air Base, the headquarters for U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan.

Many soldiers woke up at 3:30 a.m. local time to watch at catered gather-

ings or around TVs in their tents. Beer, the traditional drink of choice, was absent due to military regulations but plenty of muffins, soda and snacks were on offer.

Colon-Escobar, raised in Tampa, Fla., cheered his hometown team as Tampa Bay beat Oakland, a Buccaneers shirt under his nylon Army jacket. Other soldiers wore camouflage uniforms with their M4 rifles slung over their shoulders.

"It's a holiday," said Spc. Jeffery Ladisic, of Clarksville, Pa., who had a special reason to celebrate the day. "It's kind of cool because last year, my daughter was born on the Super Bowl. Today is her birthday."

About 20 soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division based in Fort Bragg, N.C., gathered in a large tent inside a hanger to catch the game on a big-screen TV. They grumbled when early audio and picture problems made them miss the kickoff, although they soon got into a groove.

"Great pass!" one soldier shouted as Tampa Bay's offense charged.

"Go, go, go!" another cheered.

"Dude!" a dejected Oakland fan moaned.

At Camp Dragon, a vast tent complex serving 800 soldiers, a large building was set aside for the broadcast and snacks including chicken wings were

served. The slogan "AFC vs NFC" was spelled out in apples, pears and oranges on a table, and prizes such as flashlights, knives and portable stereos were handed out for anyone correctly picking the score each quarter.

The reason for the gathering was simple, according to Andy Finnerty, a U.S. Defense Department worker who helped organize the Camp Dragon event for some 60 troops: "To bring a taste of home to the soldiers here."

Rumblings far away about possible war with Iraq and North Korea were put aside.

"Right now we're focused on the Super Bowl," Finnerty said.

Super timeout in Kuwait

Game offers distraction for servicemembers near Iraq

BY JOSEPH GIORDONO

Stars and Stripes

CAMP DOHA, Kuwait — All eyes were on the big screen broadcasting a football game from halfway across the world. But most of the soldiers' minds were focused about 50 miles north, to the Iraqi border.

Super Bowl XXXVII kicked off just after 2 a.m. Monday local time, but the soldiers deployed to Kuwait were more anxious to talk about a kickoff of another kind — a possible showdown with Iraq, where they would likely play front-line offense all the way to Baghdad.

"I don't sit around praying for war, but I want to make this world a better place for my daughter," said Spc. Jason Gribschaw, who had just arrived in Kuwait on Sunday morning with the 11th Engineering Battalion, Combat, from Fort Stewart, Ga. He and his wife are expecting their first child, a girl, in May.

Gribschaw, from Irwin, Pa., was among hundreds of U.S. soldiers — and a handful of airmen — who packed into Frosty's, a Morale, Welfare and Recreation club in a converted warehouse on Camp Doha.

At one end, a projection screen showed a live feed of the game. All around the cavernous building, camou-

flage netting was draped from the ceiling. The walls were covered with homemade wooden planks commemorating the various units that have been deployed to Doha over the years.

As soldiers walked in the front door, they could see a large board on one wall that presents a brief history of the 10-year U.S. presence at Doha. It was surrounded by the detritus of old wars — inert 500-pound bombs, rotting Kalashnikovs, metal helmets with holes blown in the crown.

The last time this many troops flowed into the Middle East was Super Bowl XXV, when the U.S. military came to Kuwait's rescue and routed an Iraqi occupation force.

Now, thousands of U.S. troops again are pouring into the region for a possible conflict with Iraq over weapons of mass destruction. Officials will not say how many troops are in the area now, but tens of thousands are deploying to "the Persian Gulf region" every week.

Sitting near the back of Frosty's, Sgt. Keenan Holt of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Squadron from Fort Carson, Colo., sipped a near-beer and munched on popcorn. Asked his opinion about the game, he offered an answer to the unasked question.

"The game is fine, I'm enjoying it. You probably want to know about my shirt, don't you?" he asked, referring to the

black T-shirt emblazoned with a picture of a mushroom cloud and the logo "Weather Forecast Bighead: 32,000 degrees and partly cloudy."

The Virginia Beach native laughed, winked, and turned back to watching the game.

A couple tables over, Spc. Charles Hatch, of 1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry, a National Guard unit from Fort Wayne, Ind., was decked out in the Oakland Raiders' silver and black.

"We've only been in Kuwait for a month, so the boredom hasn't set in yet. There's always some sort of event coming up to take your mind off training and being out in the desert," Hatch said.

The Super Bowl party was part of a larger effort to provide the troops at Doha with something to take their minds off why they are in Kuwait, officials said.

"We have a pretty aggressive MWR program here, because it's important to give them the opportunity to not think about being far from home," said Col. Ulysses Brown, commander of Camp Doha.

He cited a number of amenities, including 24-hour gyms, food courts, movies and athletic programs.

But Brown, who is six months into a two-year command tour, knows that the diversions, especially the Super Bowl, are only temporary.

"I don't think for a minute that there's any event that can stop them thinking about the reality of why they're here," he said. "Tonight doesn't change why they're here, but it gives them a break from thinking about it."

The game did serve as a welcome distraction for many of the soldiers. While the crowd heavily favored the Oakland Raiders, a hearty bunch of Tampa Bay Buccaneers fans went home happy after Tampa won the game, 48-21.

As the game ended, the sun began to creep over the desert horizon and the first call to Muslim prayers echoed throughout Kuwait City. For most of the soldiers, the Super Bowl break was over quickly.

"We've got to show up for P.T. at 0600, so it's gonna be a long day," said Pfc. Jamie Cruz of the 11th Engineers. "But it was worth it to see the game."

Now, their attention focuses elsewhere.

"None of us wants a war, but if that is what we are called upon to do, then that is our job," Gribschaw said. "And we'll be ready to do that job."

"The next couple of weeks are going to be hard. Am I going to get to head home and see the birth, or am I going to see her a year from now?"

E-mail Joe Giordono at: giordonoj@pstrips.osd.mil

Celtics 91, Magic 83

BOSTON — Paul Pierce had the first triple-double of his career with 27 points, 13 rebounds and a career-high 13 assists to lead Boston past Orlando 91-83 Sunday.

The Magic were without NBA scoring leader Tracy McGrady, who was stayed with his fiancée after she gave birth to a daughter Saturday night at an Orlando-area hospital.

Jeryl Sasser started in his place and scored a career-high 26 points with 10 rebounds, but Orlando dropped its second straight game after winning three in a row.

Boston also was missing a key player as Antoine Walker sat out his third straight game with a sprained right knee. Boston has won two of them and is 6-1 over its past seven.

NBA

Tony Battie had 12 points and Walter McCarty 11 for Boston.

Orlando got 12 from Darrell Armstrong and 11 from Miller.

Trail Blazers 100, Mavericks 93

DALLAS — Zach Randolph typified Portland's inside success in the second half by scoring all 16 of his points in the final two quarters to lead the Trail Blazers past Dallas.

Portland erased an early 14-point deficit by working the ball low and pounding away. The Trail Blazers scored 52 points in the paint and had 16 more re-

bounds than Dallas, which lost at home for the first time since Dec. 30 against Milwaukee.

Scottie Pippen scored 19 points and Bonzi Wells added 18 and tied its career high with 14 rebounds for the Blazers, who have won four straight — all on the road.

Michael Finley had 27 points to lead the Mavericks, who had won three straight. Raef LaFrentz came off the bench to produce 19 points, seven rebounds and four blocks. Dirk Nowitzki had 13 points.

Bulls 100, Rockets 98

CHICAGO — Marcus Fizer grabbed a loose ball in the lane and scored with four-tenths of a second left as Chicago beat Houston and extended the Rockets' losing streak to four games.

Continued on Page 12

BASKETBALL

BOSTON — Tracy McGrady missed Orlando's game against the Boston Celtics after his fiancée gave birth to a daughter.

McGrady, who leads the NBA in scoring, stayed in Orlando after Layla Clarise was born to ClaRenda Harris.

AKRON, Ohio — LeBron James will soon learn if he's still allowed to drive to the basket.

The Ohio High School Athletic Association is expected to end its two-week investigation to determine whether James, the nation's top player, compromised his amateur status by accepting a Hummer H2 sports utility vehicle as a gift.

GOLF

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Vijay Singh birdied five of the first six holes and shot an 8-under-par 63 Sunday to win the Phoenix Open for the second time.

Singh finished at 23-under 261, three strokes ahead of runner-up John Huston. Singh also won this event in 1995.

This was the 12th victory on the PGA

Tour for Singh, a native of Fiji who lives in Florida. The 2000 Masters champion also has 21 international victories.

It was the fifth straight victory on the PGA Tour by an international player. Luke Donald and Singh started the string on the same weekend last season at the Southern Farm Bureau Classic and the Tour Championship. Ernie Els had two victories in Hawaii this year.

Singh won \$720,000, boosting him from eighth to second on the money list with \$990,929.

Huston bogeyed the 17th hole and closed with a 67. Third-round leader Harrison Frazier struggled to a 69 and tied for third at 265 with Robert Gamez (66), Retief Goosen (67) and Tim Petrovic (68).

Alex Cejka and Joe Durant finished five shots off the lead, followed by Phil Mickelson and Mike Weir at 267. Mickelson and Cejka carded 64s, but were too far back at the start to make a charge.

Defending champion Chris DiMarco

went 15 under for the tournament — only two shots worse than his winning 267 in 2002 — but was eight shots behind.

WAILEA, Hawaii — Annika Sorenstam, offered an exemption to compete against the men on the PGA Tour, was vague when asked if she would play in the B.C. Open in upstate New York in July, opposite the British Open and the LPGA's Big Apple Classic in New Rochelle, N.Y.

Agent Mark Steinberg at IMG said it was unlikely a decision on the B.C. Open invitation would be made anytime soon.

SOCCER

SHANGHAI, China — The United States lost to China 2-0 in the Four Nations Tournament.

SKIING

KITZBUEHEL, Austria — Austrian star

Hermann Maier capped a remarkable comeback from severe injury by winning the men's World Cup super-G on Monday.

Maier, who nearly lost a leg in a motorcycle accident in August 2001, cried with joy in the finish area after reigning World Cup overall, downhill, super-G champion Stephan Eberharter finished behind him.

Maier sliced through the heavy snowfalls shrouding the Streifalm course in 1 minute, 20.48 seconds, leading an Austrian sweep of the top five places.

Christoph Gruber was runnerup in 1:20.59, and Eberharter third in 1:20.63.

American Bode Miller, who had trouble with snow inside and on his goggles, was 12th, 1.69 seconds back, failing eight points behind Eberharter, who regained the overall lead with 965 points.

TRACK AND FIELD

MOSCOW — Valery Brumel, the 1964 Olympic champion and 1961-71 world record holder in the high jump for the Soviet Union, died at 60.

From The Associated Press

Sports in brief

NHL

Capitals 7, Rangers 2

WASHINGTON — Sergei Gonchar had a goal and three assists and Washington scored five power-play goals in a 7-2 victory over the New York Rangers on Sunday.

Robert Lang scored twice and Jaromir Jagr had a goal and two assists for Washington. Calle Johansson, Kip Miller and Peter Bondra also scored for the Capitals.

Referees Mike Hasenfratz and Brad Watson called 155 minutes in penalties, 89 against the Rangers. There were three fighting majors and several other melees that resulted in seven misconduct penalties and two game misconducts, both against New York. Rangers defenseman Boris Mironov was ejected in the opening minute.

Jamie Lundmark scored twice for the Rangers, who have lost two straight.

Canadiens 4, Blackhawks 3

MONTREAL — Jan Bulis scored midway through the third period to lead Montreal over Chicago.

Chicago rookie Tyler Arnason tied it at 3 early in the third period.

The Blackhawks charged to a 2-0 lead in the first on goals by Chris Simon and Alexei Zhamnov. The Canadiens rallied with three second-period

goals by newcomer Niklas Sundstrom, Andrei Markov and Richard Zednik. Montreal has not lost in regulation (2-0-2-1) under new coach Claude Julien.

The Blackhawks are winless in their past six (0-4-2).

Sundstrom, acquired from San Jose on Thursday, scored his third of the season — and first in two games with Montreal.

Canucks 1, Coyotes 0

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Markus Naslund scored his NHL-leading 34th goal and Peter Skudra made 20 saves as Vancouver beat Phoenix.

Zac Bierk made 22 saves for the Coyotes, who came in on a three-game winning streak in which they outscored opponents 15-3.

But Phoenix couldn't solve Skudra, who started for the first time in seven games.

The Canucks avoided their first three-game losing streak of the season.

Skudra, whose previous shutout was exactly one year earlier, made his best stops during a 5-on-3 Phoenix power play that lasted 1:56 midway through the third period. He got a piece of Shane Doan's hard point shot and turned away Daniel Briere at the side of the crease.

From The Associated Press

NBA continued

Continued from Page 11

Jalen Rose scored 29 points, including 11 in the final quarter, and then batted away a final Houston lob pass to secure the Bulls' victory.

Steve Francis led the Rockets with 26 points, Cuttino Mobley had 19, and Yao Ming added 14 points and eight rebounds, two weeks before he will start for the Western Conference in the All-Star Game.

Knicks 106, Suns 98

NEW YORK — Kurt Thomas and Latrell Sprewell scored 28 points apiece and the New York Knicks built a 22-point lead before holding off Phoenix.

Allan Houston added 16 points and Thomas grabbed 17 rebounds for the Knicks, who benefited from one of the worst games of the season by Suns rookie Amare Stoudemire. The 20-year-old phenom had just three points and six rebounds and missed three of four free throws.

Stephon Marbury had 31 points and nine assists and Shawn Marion scored 24 for the Suns, who were making the fourth stop on a five-game road trip.

Pacers 108, Clippers 101

INDIANAPOLIS — Jermaine O'Neal had 21 points, 10 rebounds and eight

blocked shots, and Ron Artest and Al Harrington each scored 17 as Indiana beat the Los Angeles Clippers.

The Pacers won their 14th straight at home, the second longest streak at Conseco Fieldhouse. The 1999-2000 Pacers set the team record with 25 straight victories.

Brad Miller had 13 points and 11 rebounds, Jamaal Tinsley had 15 assists and Erick Strickland added 13 points, including four three-pointers.

Elton Brand scored 17 points, grabbed 14 and 10 assists for the Clippers. Corey Maggette scored 25 points — on 11-for-19 shooting — and Lamar Odom had 14.

Raptors 101, Kings 97

TORONTO — Vince Carter, playing for the first time since Dec. 10, scored 22 points to lead the Raptors over the Sacramento Kings, snapping their five-game losing streak.

Carter, who missed 23 games because of a strained right knee, scored Toronto's last six points on his 26th birthday.

Mike Bibby scored 30 points and Chris Webber had 24 points, 19 rebounds and 10 assists for the Kings, who shot 39 percent from the field in losing for the second straight game.

Toronto's Jerome Williams added 14 rebounds and 12 points.

From The Associated Press

Scores/standings

NFL

Super Bowl Sunday

At San Diego

Tampa Bay 48, Oakland 21

Pro Bowl Feb. 2

At Honolulu

AFC vs. NFC

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	29	14	.674	—
Boston	26	18	.591	3½
Philadelphia	23	21	.523	6½
Orlando	23	23	.500	7½
Washington	21	23	.477	8½
New York	18	24	.429	10½
Miami	15	28	.349	14

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	32	12	.727	—
Detroit	28	15	.651	3½
New Orleans	23	21	.523	9
Milwaukee	21	21	.500	10
Chicago	17	27	.386	15
Atlanta	16	28	.364	16
Toronto	11	33	.250	21
Cleveland	8	36	.182	24

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	34	9	.791	—
San Antonio	28	15	.651	6
Minnesota	26	18	.591	8½
Utah	25	18	.581	9
Houston	23	19	.548	10½
Memphis	13	30	.302	21
Denver	10	33	.233	24

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	32	13	.711	—
Portland	27	15	.643	3½
Phoenix	26	19	.578	6
Golden State	20	23	.465	11
L.A. Lakers	19	23	.452	11½
Seattle	19	23	.452	11½
L.A. Clippers	16	27	.372	15

Sunday's games

Toronto 101, Sacramento 97
Boston 91, Orlando 83
Chicago 100, Houston 98
New York 106, Phoenix 98
Indiana 108, L.A. Clippers 101
Portland 100, Dallas 93

Men's basketball

AP Top 25 Fared

Sunday

1. Arizona (15-1) did not play. Next: vs. Stanford, Thursday.
2. Pittsburgh (15-1) did not play. Next: at Syracuse, Saturday.
3. Duke (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Butler, Thursday.
4. Texas (13-2) did not play. Next: at No. 6 Kansas, Monday.
5. Florida (16-2) did not play. Next: at LSU, Tuesday.
6. Kansas (13-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 4 Texas, Monday.
7. Oklahoma (13-3) did not play. Next: vs. Texas A&M, Tuesday.
8. Kentucky (15-3) did not play. Next: at South Carolina, Saturday.
9. Louisville (14-1) did not play. Next: at Southern Mississippi, Wednesday.
10. Creighton (17-2) beat Texas Christian 89-79. Next: at Indiana State, Wednesday.

11. Connecticut (12-3) did not play. Next: at St. John's, Monday.

12. Maryland (12-4) did not play. Next: vs. N.C. State, Thursday.

13. Oklahoma State (16-1) beat Texas Tech 79-70. Next: vs. Iowa State, Wednesday.

14. Indiana (14-4) did not play. Next: at Michigan State, Tuesday.

15. Alabama (12-5) did not play. Next: vs. LSU, Saturday.

16. Notre Dame (16-3) did not play. Next: vs. West Virginia, Wednesday.

17. Wake Forest (13-2) beat Florida State 71-60. Next: at Clemson, Tuesday.

18. Illinois (14-3) did not play. Next: vs. Michigan, Wednesday.

19. Georgia (12-4) did not play. Next: at Vanderbilt, Wednesday.

20. Marquette (13-3) did not play. Next: vs. East Carolina, Wednesday.

21. Missouri (11-4) did not play. Next: at Nebraska, Wednesday.

22. Mississippi State (12-4) did not play. Next: at Mississippi, Wednesday.

23. Oregon (14-4) did not play. Next: at UCLA, Thursday.

24. Auburn (15-4) did not play. Next: vs. Tennessee, Saturday.

25. California (14-2) did not play. Next: at Arizona State, Thursday.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	29	12	3	4	65	124	95
Philadelphia	27	12	8	2	64	121	103
N.Y. Islanders	22	20	5	2	51	135	145
Pittsburgh	21	20	4	5	51	135	144
N.Y. Rangers	21	25	6	1	49	134	160

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	32	11	6	1	71	167	110
Boston	25	18	5	1	56	148	129
Toronto	25	20	4	1	55	136	126
Montreal	20	19	7	5	52	134	148
Buffalo	15	23	7	3	40	107	123

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	23	18	7	3	56	147	139
Tampa Bay	20	19	7	4	51	139	143
Florida	15	18	9	8	47	113	146
Carolina	17	23	6	5	45	112	141
Atlanta	16	26	3	4	39	132	176

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	27	14	7	2	63	147	124
St. Louis	26	15	6	4	62	163	132
Chicago	21	18	9	3	54	123	125
Nashville	16	21	8	4	44	109	132
Columbus	19	25	4	2	44	142	157

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	29	16	5	0	63	154	130
Minnesota	25	17	7	1	58	123	109
Edmonton	23	16	5	6	57	138	136
Colorado	19	14	10	5	53	138	122
Calgary	17	23	7	3	44	108	139

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	28	11	11	1	68	156	103
Anaheim	20	18	7	4	51	119	123
Phoenix	18	21	7	4	47	124	135
Los Angeles	19	22	4	4	46	124	138
San Jose	17	20	6	5	45	128	147

Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.

Sunday's games

Washington 7, N.Y. Rangers 2
Montreal 4, Chicago 3
Vancouver 1, Phoenix 0

From The Associated Press

No. 10 Creighton 89, Texas Christian 79

OMAHA, Neb. — Kyle Korver scored 23 points as No. 10 Creighton rallied from a double-digit deficit in the second half and beat TCU 89-79 Sunday.

Korver scored seven points in the decisive three-minute stretch that saw the Bluejays stretch a 78-77 lead to 87-77.

Creighton (17-2), which last week entered the Top Ten for the first time in school history, avoided losing consecutive games to teams with sub-.500 records.

Evansville had handed the Bluejays their second loss of the season on Thursday, 74-66 on the road.

Larry House scored 18 points for Creighton.

Corey Santee led the Horned Frogs (7-10) with 27 points.

College basketball

No. 13 Oklahoma St. 79, Texas Tech 70

LUBBOCK, Texas — Victor Williams scored 24 points and the Cowboys extended the nation's longest winning streak to 14 games.

Oklahoma State (16-1, 5-0 Big 12) scored on seven of its first nine possessions in the second half and used a 14-0 run to take a 54-39 lead.

Texas Tech (11-4, 1-3) got within 65-64 with 3:13 remaining, but the Cowboys put together a 10-1 run to lead 75-65 with 31 seconds remaining. Tony Allen, who finished with 21 points, had two layups in the run.

Kasib Powell scored 26 points and Emmett had 23 for Tech.

No. 17 Wake Forest 71, Florida St. 60

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Josh Howard scored 24 points to lead the Demon Deacons (13-2, 3-2 Atlantic Coast Conference).

Tim Pickett had 27 points for Florida State (10-7, 1-5) — the most an opponent has scored against Wake Forest this season.

Howard scored seven straight points in an 11-4 run that put Wake Forest ahead 51-43. Florida State cut the lead to 51-48 with 4:18 to play, but Howard went 5-for-6 from the free throw line and added a dunk.

From The Associated Press